



الوكالة الدولية للطاقة الذرية

国际原子能机构

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

AGENCE INTERNATIONALE DE L'ÉNERGIE ATOMIQUE

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ АГЕНТСТВО ПО АТОМНОЙ ЭНЕРГИИ

ORGANISMO INTERNACIONAL DE ENERGÍA ATÓMICA

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IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO:
PRIERE DE RAPPELER LA REFERENCE:

DIAL DIRECTLY TO EXTENSION:
COMPOSER DIRECTEMENT LE NUMERO DE POSTE:

711-J7-TM25718

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2003-03-17

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the International Atomic Energy Agency (the Agency) will hold a Technical Meeting on *Probabilistic Hazard Evaluation for External Events* at its Headquarters in Vienna from 17 to 20 November 2003.

The objective of the Technical Meeting (TM) is to carry out a critical comparison of available methods for probabilistic hazard assessment, on the basis of the Member State experience and the availability of the most updated scientific tools. Such an analysis should highlight the major safety issues and suggest a reference approach for a state-of-the-art development of probabilistic hazard for external events.

Operational experience in the last years shows a number of incidents occurred at some operating plants triggered by external events. Consequences have seldom been serious in terms of radiological release into the environment, but large degradation of the defence in depth system seriously challenged the plant safety and also created high economic losses. The analysis of the root causes highlighted two main issues: wrong probabilistic screening of initiating event scenarios and weak probabilistic evaluation of the hazard, particularly for complex scenarios. These considerations suggested starting a detailed study of the current engineering practice in order to assess the proper application of probabilistic concepts to the hazard evaluation. Details of the TM are given in the attached Information Sheet.

The meeting will be held in English only.

In view of your country's potential interest in the subject matter, your Government is invited to designate an expert (or experts) to contribute to and participate in this meeting. Designated participants should be specialists and managers from nuclear power plants, regulatory bodies, and technical support organizations involved in the probabilistic hazard assessment. A special knowledge is required in the application of probabilistic techniques to all the main areas of discussion, namely: seismic events, human induced events and meteorological events.

H.E. Mr. Kenneth C. Brill
The Resident Representative
of the United States of America
to the International Atomic Energy Agency
Wagramerstrasse 17-19
A-1220 Vienna

The IAEA is not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of designated participants.

Please note that compensation is not payable by the Agency for any damage to or loss of the expert's personal property. However, for the period of his/her engagement with the Agency including travel between his/her residence and the duty station, he/she will be covered under the Agency's insurance policy for, inter alia, permanent total disability or death up to an amount of US \$100,000.- and for medical expenses up to an amount of US \$10,000.- in case of illness, injury or death attributable to his/her relationship with the Agency, subject to the terms of the insurance policy.

I would be grateful if your Government's designation could reach the Agency not later than **3 October 2003**. Subsequent correspondence will be exchanged directly between the designated expert and the Agency's responsible officer, Mr P. Contri, Division of Nuclear Installation Safety. In this connection, the attached Participation Form should be completed for each designated expert and forwarded through the official authority to the Agency.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ken E. Brockman
Director
Division of Nuclear Installation Safety

FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL

Enclosure